

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Plate transfer apparatus comprising:

transfer means (26) for ejecting a used plate (52) outwards from and feeding a new plate (50) to a plate cylinder (16) by respectively rotating the transfer means in normal and opposite rotational directions, ~~which has functions in it's normal and opposite rotations for ejecting the used plate (52) outwards and feeding new plate (50) to the plate cylinder (16);~~

a flat sustaining board (30) provided above said transfer means (26) in order to prepare a new plate (~~350~~), one end of said board (30) is swingably supported and the other end is branched, and

drive means (36) for swinging said sustaining board (30) in order to sink said branched end into a transfer path of said transfer means (26).

2. (Currently amended) Plate transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said branched portion of said sustaining board (30) is divided into a comb-like shape.

3. (Currently amended) Plate transfer apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a stopper (38) for preventing reversion of the used plate (52) as well as detecting means (40) for detecting passage of the used plate (52) on said stopper (38) are provided on the way of an ejection path of said transfer means (26).